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# Meehan's Garden Bulletin



JANUARY, 1913

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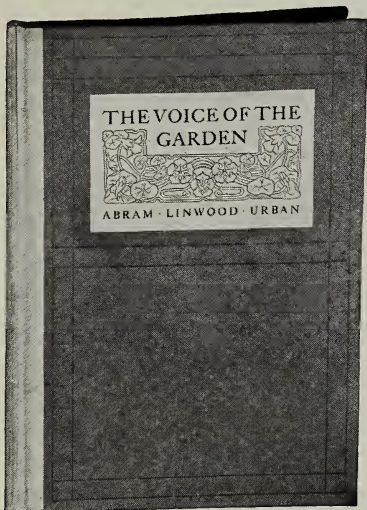
The famous Washington Elm under which the great American General first took command of the Army.

Published Monthly  
by

**THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS**

Nurserymen and Horticulturists Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

Copyright 1912 by Thomas Meehan & Sons



A halftone of the cover design (much reduced) is shown in the illustration. The original is printed in three colors.

## Publishers' First Offer

# "The Voice of the Garden"

### Limited Author's Edition

**T**HE VOICE OF THE GARDEN" is a book that every lover of nature, every landscape architect, every practical gardener, and every lover of good books will desire to possess. It is written in five parts, with a Foreword by the Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, Right Reverend Philip M. Rhineland, D.D., LL.D. These are the headings to the sub-divisions:

*The Garden*                      *Art in the Garden*  
*Sentiment in the Garden*   *Voices in the Garden*  
*Out from the Garden*

The book has four illustrations which are from actual photographs of part of the author's own home garden. These bear the legends:

*Into the Garden*                      *Roses and Hollyhocks*  
*In the Rock Garden*                *A Group of Favorites*

Price of Author's Edition, \$1.30 postpaid

**Thomas Meehan & Sons, Publishers, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.**

## CHRISTMAS TREES Growing in Green Pails

Reserve your order *now*, before the last days previous to Christmas arrive, as stock is limited and the demand always great enough to use all growing in pails. They've been in the pails six weeks, an assurance of high quality. Avoid freshly potted plants.

### Fern-Leaved Arborvitae | Norway Spruce

**T**HE crested foliage of this very dark green arborvitae is highly ornamental.

In addition the habit is close and compact, yet upright, developing a pyramidal evergreen of great beauty.

Splendid specimens in limited quantities.

2 to 2½ feet over all, \$1.50 each

4½ to 5 feet over all, 2.50 each

**N**OT cut trees, but actual living plants, bright green in color, in painted pails. These bushy trees, 2 to 2½ feet high, and almost as broad, are as perfect as can be grown. Always bright and green, as long as you wish to use them, if given good, ordinary care.

Use them as a center decoration for the Christmas holidays. Decorate them for the children's nursery, use them in the reception room or in the conservatory. They are cheery in appearance and well suited for holiday decorations of all kinds.

2½ to 3 feet over all  
in green pails      **\$1.50 each**

**THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.**

DO YOU WANT A COPY OF

## Meehans' 1913 Specialty Plant Book?

**I**T'S the strongest and most suggestive book of its kind ever issued—strongest in sterling merit, highest quality and excellency of selection. Meehan knows your wants and makes it his business to meet them fully, and more. You step out of the commonplace and give your plantings character when you deal with Meehan.

The book is ready January 1, 1913. Register your request *NOW*.

**THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila., Pa.**

# Meehan's Garden Bulletin

VOL. IV—No. 5

JANUARY, 1913

\$1.00 per year  
Subscriptions dated from January or July of each year

## The Tone Value of Evergreens

E. HEMMING

**N**OW the leaves are fallen from the deciduous trees the evergreens stand out very prominently.

The lonely cedar or pine becomes of importance in the landscape, and in the small yard the Japanese Cedar or *Arbor Vite* takes on added beauty.

Heretofore evergreens were almost exclusively planted by the wealthy landowner and in public parks, so they have to a certain extent become associated with wealth and refinement.

While perhaps they are a little more expensive than other kinds of hardy plants, their cost is by no means prohibitive, even to the person of very

small means. Small plants may be purchased as low as 75 cents each, or even 50 cents for some kinds.

They should undoubtedly be used more in the small yard, as they furnish it in a way no other plant will. Using them to the exclusion of other plants would tend to monotony, but used with judgment, the right kinds for the right place, they produce a richness and finish to the grounds that is good for all seasons, and cannot be produced by any other means.

To produce their full warmth and richness of color they should be healthy and thrifty. No plants are easier to grow, although the amateur



Here is an illustration where a very clever building operator clothed his proposition in a good suit,  
—or shall we say, “framed his picture.”



Anemone-flowered Chrysanthemums, Corsican and Eva.

may think otherwise. They only grow during the spring months, say from April to June, and if the growth is not made at that time nothing you can do to them will make them grow at any other, and the plant will apparently stand still until the following growing season.

The amount of growth made each season varies according to the kind: Box and other dwarf-growing evergreens only make one or two inches, while vigorous young pines and spruces will make as many feet in height, but only five or six inches on the ends of the branches.

Mistaken notions about evergreens not losing their leaves are common. They lose their leaves like other kinds of plants, but they do not lose them all at once. In other words, the old ones do not fall until the new ones come. The old leaves are always on the interior of the plant, and are largely hidden with the newer ones. In the case of *Arbor Vita*, the old leaves turning brown and falling in October and November are very noticeable, and often give rise to the impression that the plants are dying. Whereas it is only the natural fall of leaf.

In the dense growing kinds, like the *Retinisporas*, especially those that have been sheared, these old leaves lodge and ruin the health of the plant by preventing free circulation of air, and making a harbor for insect pests and disease. All the dead twigs and leaves should be annually

cleaned out of the interior of evergreens. It often means the difference between success and failure, as a plant cannot thrive and look happy with its interior filled up with rubbish. It is work that any one can do, as no knowledge or skill is required. The dried leaves and twigs are often sharp and spiny, so that gloves should be worn to protect the hands, and a sharp knife or shears will be required to cut off the dead twigs. When the trees have once been properly cleaned out it will be a very trifling job if attended to annually.

## Typical Varieties of Hardy Chrysanthemums

In our December BULLETIN we illustrated different types of the Hardy Chrysanthemums—namely, medium large flowers, button types, and a loose-petaled variety, A. Neilson. The accompanying illustrations show additional types.

The Anemone-flowered is quite distinct, due to the center petals being in the form of little tubes, and are densely clustered, quite distinct from the semi-double or single ones with yellow centers. Corsican and Eva are the names of these varieties.

In the next illustration, May Suydam, we approach the incurved varieties of greenhouse sorts,



May Suydam—a leader among large hardy 'mums.



but the one illustrated is very hardy and vigorous, and the beautiful bronze coloring is exquisite. May Suydam is easily a leader among the larger flowering hardy kinds.

Fremy is the most separate and distinct variety in our collection. There is nothing quite like it, either in color or form. The color is variously described as buff, fawn, salmon, terra cotta, etc., none of which quite describes it. The end of the petals are curiously cut, giving the flower a fringed appearance, as if made of tissue paper, and they all stand out straight, making a full, round bloom of fair size.

## A Prize Collection of Hardy 'Mums

Word comes that a special prize was awarded Thomas Meehan & Sons for a splendid exhibition of Hardy Chrysanthemums at the American Institute, City of New York, November 6th to 8th.

## Orchard and Garden Notes

Rake up and burn all prunings and weeds in the orchard and garden.

As soon as the ground freezes cover the strawberry bed and bulb beds.

Prune and burn all diseased limbs or dry fruits clinging to the plum or apple tree.

Cut and burn asparagus canes. If well-rotted manure is available mulch the bed well with it, plowing it in as early in spring as possible.

Do not allow house plants to stand in water in the jardiniere. Water as frequently and thoroughly as the plant needs, but keep the jardiniere dry at all times.

Put plenty of broken pottery in all pots over four inches in depth when potting or repotting plants. This will insure good drainage, which is always essential to plant growth.

Just before snow comes cover the lawn with well-rotted manure. Rake this litter off in the spring after the rains have worked the manure into the soil. Better sod will result. Weeds will be kept in check more easily by the grass.

UNIVERSITY FARM PRESS NEWS.

## An Appreciation

I have had the great pleasure of reading and re-reading "The Voice of the Garden," by Rev. Abram L. Urban, rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Lansdale, Pa. It is difficult to read it critically, as its charm and interest simply carries one along. It is written with masterly skill and ability by one who has a wonderful appreciation of the entire subject. What a suitable frame is to a beautiful picture, that the book-makers' art has contributed in the way of letterpress and binding to this truly delightful book.

If flowers are to amount to anything to us—signify anything to us—we must be affected by them and they will be a revelation to us and help us to redeem our lives. The book has a distinctive message. One cannot help catching its spirit and hearing its voice. Nothing more attractive in form and contents has ever come to my notice.

J. J. ROTHROCK.



There is nothing else quite like Fremy in color or form.



# MEEHANS' GARDEN BULLETIN



## A Convention of Gardeners

The convention of the "National Association of Gardeners," held at Newark, N. J., on November 19th, was, to all appearances, a most successful one.

Certainly it was an enjoyable and profitable time to meet some old friends, and to make the acquaintance of others.

The meeting, held in the "new Auditorium," was not so well attended as one could wish, although there was a goodly number present.

Most edifying indeed was the "Talk to Gardeners" from that able and well-loved speaker, Robert Craig, of Philadelphia.

While listening to his remarks one could but wish that the garden owner was also present, for the speaker, in his own inimitable way, brought the employer and his gardener together in the great work of bringing to perfection the treasures of the horticultural world.

This is surely the ideal condition where there is perfect unity of purpose between the gardener and his employer.

Then it is the latter recognizes and appreciates the former's work, and in so doing leads him to bend his best efforts to please an appreciative employer.

The first president of the society, John Shaw, received a rousing reception from all the mem-

# HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS

## Meehans' Selected—Hardest of the Hardy

The following list is offered after years of experience in propagating and growing.

Chosen for their beauty of color, attractive form and hardiness.

**Allentown.** Golden-bronze, semi-double, 2 in. diameter.

**Alpha.** Single white, yellow center, 2 in. diameter.

**Autumn Queen.** Large, rosy pink.

**A. Neilson.** Bright wine color with silvery reverse petals. New, large and distinctive.

**Baby.** Golden yellow, button type.

**Boston.** Semi-double, splendid golden bronze or old gold.

**Bradshaw.** Large, full, silvery-pink flower.

**Brown Bessie.** Beautiful, garnet-brown, button flower.

**Corsican.** Light pink, quilled petals, anemone-flowered.

**Daisy.** Tall, extra large, single, white, yellow center.

**Eleanor.** Fimbriated flower, pure white petals, large, noticeable yellow center when fully open.

**Elkton.** Large, light pink blossom.

**Eva.** Large, true anemone flower, rose-pink.

**Fremy.** Beautiful terra cotta, large, full flower of great beauty.

**Globe d'Or.** Large, bushy, clear lemon-yellow.

**Gloriosa.** Large, double, wine-colored, penciled white. Suggests cactus dahlia.

**Golden Gate.** Large, semi-double, bright yellow, full center.

**Golden Mlle. Martha.** Small, double, clear orange yellow.

**Golden Pheasant.** Small, rich yellow, reddish-brown center.

**Henrietta.** Bronze, yellow edge.

**Hindu.** Semi-double, scarlet-bronze, yellow center.

**Hijos.** Beautiful primrose pink, opening lighter.

**James Boone.** Pure white of good size.

**Johnson's Favorite.** Very large, rosy-pink, double.

**Julia Lagravere.** Large, rich, velvety maroon.

**Kadar.** Mottled crimson and garnet. Early; a startling, vivid flower.

**Lady Naylor.** Large, double, soft La France pink.

**Ladysmith.** Large, rosy-lake, tinged salmon. A beautiful flower.

**Lilia.** Double, rich, velvety scarlet. Tall.

**May Suydam.** Glorious, large, rich bronze flower, 3 to 3 1/2 inches in diameter. Incurved petals.

**Mercedes.** Semi-double, pure white, yellow center. Large flower.

**Model.** Small, round, pure white. Early. Flowers in cluster.

**Mrs. Porter.** Good, bright bronze.

**Mrs. Vincent.** Large, rich magenta, 2 in.

**Nellie Rainsford.** Red in bud, opening straw-tipped and suffused red. 1 in. diameter.

**Painted Lady.** Semi-double, light pink, shaded white.

**Radiance.** Semi-double, light pink, shaded darker. Yellow center.

**Reliance.** Semi-double, rich cream, yellow center, large flower.

**Rosamond.** 1 to 1 1/4 inch. Plum color in bud, opening pink, overlaid with smoke.

**Souer Melaine.** Large, pure white. Splendid.

**St. Illoria.** Large, glorious, silvery-pink, quilled petals, flower 2 to 3 in. diameter.

**Strathmeath.** Large, clear pink.

**Sunset.** Medium, single scarlet, clear yellow center. A striking flower.

**Triumph d'Or.** Bright yellow, large flower. Tall, double.

**Yellow Gem.** Pure yellow, large full flowers, 2 in. across.

Thrifty, pot-grown plants ready for delivery after April 15th, 1913.

Order at once for spring delivery.

15c each, (postpaid 20c)  
10 for \$1.20 50 for \$5.00

## THE BIG SIX GROUP

Souer Melaine A. Neilson } 5 of each  
Golden Mlle. Martha May Suydam } kind, 30 in  
Julia Lagravere Fremy } all, \$3.00

Thomas Meehan & Sons, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.





bers, and his reminiscent, as well as prophetic, remarks were well fitted to the occasion. Men like John Shaw raise the standard of the profession, and give it the dignity it deserves, but which often is allowed to trail in the dust of humiliation.

W. H. Waite, superintendent to Samuel Untermeyer, Yonkers, N. Y., was elected president of the association for the year 1913. The retiring president, Thomas Logan, superintendent to Clement B. Newbold, Jenkintown, Pa., who presided over the convention, very gracefully relinquished the post of honor to his successor.

The banquet following the meeting was well attended, the large dining hall of the Hotel Continental being practically full of the jolliest lot of men one could meet.

Patrick O'Mara, who makes the ideal toastmaster, presented the trophies to the several winners in the bowling tournament, amid the acclaim of the members.

E. M.

[The gardeners are indeed to be congratulated on the position they are, by sheer merit, winning in American life. Their ideals have risen above pocket graft and carousing, and the craft has an honorable and important part to play in the development of this great country.—EDITOR.]

## Great Interest in Mushroom Growing

Many of our readers have written in about mushroom growing, after reading the notes in the October-November issue. Mr. Fursey, the experienced gardener whose wonderful crop was illustrated, cheerfully adds the following helpful information:

"The house is a regular greenhouse, built on the north side of a large greenhouse, heated by hot water. The house is about 45 feet long and has two benches on either side, about 3½ feet wide, with almost a flat roof that gave me a great deal of trouble on account of the drip. The cold end of the house, on account of the long, severe winter, was not very warm at night, often 35, and the warm end from 40 to 60, according to the weather, but the temperature has all to do with growing mushrooms. The colder the house the slower the growth and a more prolonged crop. The warmer the house the quicker the crop, and out of the way for something else. My beds would have produced a great many more

mushrooms, but I had to have the benches for the bedding plants. Light does not affect the mushrooms very much, only brings them to perfection a little quicker, and perhaps not quite so large, although I have hundreds of thick, heavy ones that weighed six, eight, ten, twelve, fourteen and one sixteen ounces. I enclose a couple of small pictures that Miss Huff took at the same time as the one you have in the GARDEN BULLETIN. I also send, under separate cover, a clump that measures 18 inches across with thirty-five large mushrooms. It was as large as a bushel peach basket. Also shows a curiosity where two grow on top of one. Also another picture showing a second crop, after I had picked 700. Those two benches produced more mushrooms than ever I or any one else around here ever saw before. It certainly was a grand sight. Is there anything else you wish to know? Don't be afraid to ask."

JOHN FURSEY.



This single clump of Mushrooms was as large round as a bushel basket. A curious one double-decked, is seen in the corner.

## How to Grow Mushrooms

A Practical Treatise of Instruction

PRICE, 12 cents, prepaid

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS

GERMANTOWN, PHILADELPHIA, PA.



## MEEHANS' Mallow Marvels

**H**AVE you ever seen flowers of Meehans' Mallow Marvels? If not, you have missed a wonderful sight.

Today they are the chief center of attraction in thousands of gardens.

An artist who was recently painting them, wrote us as follows:

"In the early morning, when they first open, I find their colors enchanting, with a sheen upon the petals most difficult to reproduce."

**YOU NEED MALLOW MARVELS IN YOUR GARDEN** if you love flowers in August, September or October.

This long period of bloom, coupled with their dazzling colors and shades and immense size, give them first place among hardy perennials.

The many sterling qualities of Meehans' Mallow Marvels may be summed up as follows:

- They are perfectly hardy.
- Flowers from 8 to 10 weeks in succession.
- Not subject to any serious disease.
- Bear blossoms 6 to 10 inches across.
- Flowers from white to rich scarlet.
- Grow from 6 to 8 feet high.
- Make splendid bushy plants.
- Flower first year after planting.
- Grow in almost any soil.
- Excellent for bordering streams.

Be sure to get our true strains.  
Roots ready now for shipment.

	2-year roots		3-year roots	
	each	per 10	each	per 10
Pink Marvels . . .	\$0.50	\$4.00	\$0.75	\$6.00
Soft shades of pink.				
White Marvels . . .	.50	4.00	.75	6.00
White and very pale-tinted kinds.				
Red Marvels . . .	.75	6.00	1.00	8.00
Vivid shades of red.				

### SPECIAL

25 two-year-old roots, in good assortment of colors, our selection **\$8.50**

**THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS**  
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.



VERMILION, OHIO, November 23, 1912.

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS,  
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

GENTLEMEN:

Having joyfully received your letter of the sixteenth and check enclosed (first prize in Mallow Marvel Art Contest), I want to thank you very much for them, and for your kindness and interest during the contest.

Yours very truly,

MARGARETHA SHARP.

### Identity of Libocedrus

A correspondent questions the correctness of the title applied to the tall evergreen illustrated on the cover of December GARDEN BULLETIN.

In England, *Thuja gigantea* is commonly and erroneously called *Libocedrus decurrens*. Both are grown there, and there is such similarity in general appearance the identification, merely from a photograph, cannot be pronounced certain.

As considerable interest is attached we are taking steps to ascertain if it was correctly identified, and later announcement will be made.

Have you a new or undeveloped property of an acre or less? We have a special suggestion to make that is sure to interest and help you. Write for "New Plan" proposition.

NURSERY DEPARTMENT

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila., Pa.

# Foreword

**F**OR many years past we have extended the invitation, "Come, see the Meehan Nurseries for yourself. Visitors are welcome any week-day; a competent guide—not a salesman—will show you around. After you have seen for yourself their great scope, the broad variety and high quality of the trees, evergreens, shrubs and perennials being grown here, and the thorough methods adopted to secure satisfactory results, we shall not need to urge you to buy."

But we realize that in many cases distance makes a personal visit well nigh impossible—though no distance can prevent us from giving you the best of service. It is for this reason that we present this booklet,\* devoted throughout (with the exception of this and cover pages) to other people's opinions of the Meehan establishment, and illustrated with actual photographic illustrations, *all made within our own nurseries*. The comments of various customers at the foot of the pages are extracts from our regular mail for a period of about a month.

The description which forms the body of this booklet was written by an outsider whose long experience and close touch with many of the leading nurseries in America adds weight to the opinions expressed. What he has written in regard to his recent visit is in close accord with the following opinion expressed in the New York Tribune of September, 1893, by Mr. George Nicholson, then curator of the famous Royal Gardens, Kew, London:

"One of the most interesting days I spent in America was in Germantown, where I visited Mr. Thomas Meehan, the Nestor among American tree lovers and planters. I was particularly glad to make Mr. Meehan's acquaintance, because fifty years ago he was a gardener in Kew, where he laid the foundation of that extensive knowledge which has enabled him to build up one of the most important nurseries in America. Here I found a larger number of American trees and shrubs than can be found in any other nursery in the world, and it is through Mr. Meehan's efforts, I am told, that American trees are now so much more largely cultivated in their native land than they were a quarter of a century ago. In this nursery may be found seedlings of American oaks, elms, hickories, dogwoods and maples by tens of thousands, and here is the only place, I believe, where many of the rarer trees and shrubs can be had in large quantities. Here, too, I saw remarkable examples of many rare trees, such as the Broad-leaved Maple of Oregon, the Cedrela from Northern China, the Hovenia dulcis of Japan, a curious tree with thick, fleshy fruit stems which are eaten by the Japanese. Mr. Meehan has done the people good service in securing several small parks, including the site of the famous Bartram Garden, which was the first botanical garden in the New World. He has been instrumental in adding eighteen small parks in Philadelphia."

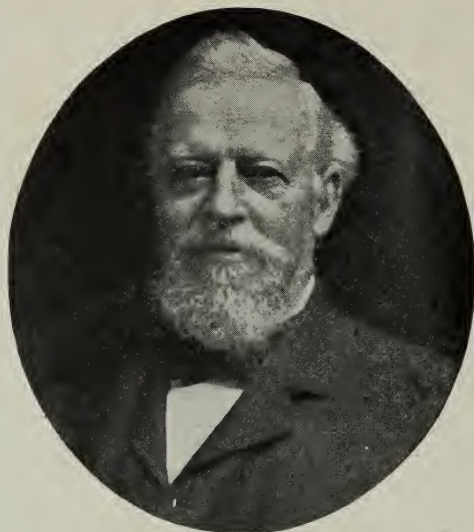
*Thomas Meehan & Sons*  
*Nurserymen and Horticulturists*  
*Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.*

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\* This and five following pages are reprinted from our new booklet, "*A Visit to the Meehan Nurseries*." Text will be continued in our February issue. A copy of this booklet will be sent free on request.

# A Visit to the Meehan Nurseries

—Anonymous



"The man who had developed such a love for the beautiful native American trees, that he was willing to risk his future in the endeavor to popularize them with the American people."

start at the bottom in America, rather than accept a coveted post of honor at Cambridge; the man who imbibed such a love of the beautiful, yet little appreciated, native American trees and shrubs in his care of them at Bartram's Gardens that he had thrown his all into the balance, risking his future and his hard-earned reputation when he started nearly sixty years ago the very nurseries I was now about to visit.

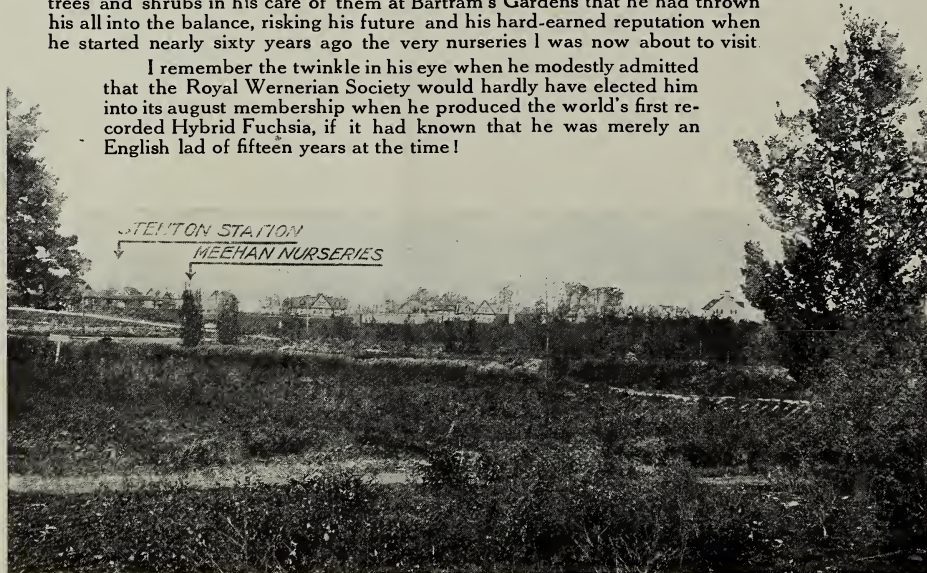
I remember the twinkle in his eye when he modestly admitted that the Royal Wernerian Society would hardly have elected him into its august membership when he produced the world's first recorded Hybrid Fuchsia, if it had known that he was merely an English lad of fifteen years at the time!

**A**S the train ran out through suburban Philadelphia toward the Meehan Nurseries, I was perturbed by strange misgivings.

For the very name "Meehan" has always suggested to my mind—as I believe it has to all flower lovers whose memory runs back a couple of decades—that world citizen whose prolific writings on trees and flowers, and other topics of public interest, have made us all his debtors.

I had looked forward with pleasure to my visit of the day before to Bartram's Gardens, planted by the father of American Arboriculture, and years later lovingly guarded and catalogued by the same Thomas Meehan who had afterward devoted his best efforts to their dedication as a public park. But I had been strangely disappointed in this visit; and it was but natural that I should lapse into a critical frame of mind as I rode out to the Meehan Nurseries, doubtful whether I could see here anything that would not detract from the favorable impressions of my last visit there nearly twenty years ago.

Memories of the kindly old man whom I had met on this previous visit flashed across my mind—the man who had, when just approaching his majority, decided to



"Looking around I saw row upon row of trees, shrubs and evergreens."



"Though the brisk autumn winds had stripped every leaf from the Weeping Mulberry, the signs of well-ordered activity were all about."

I remembered seeing a catalogue of some sixteen hundred plants prepared by him while in the Royal Gardens at Kew, as a means of absorbing most accurately the wealth of information at this Old World fount of floral knowledge.

How much further my reverie would have strayed, had I not been rudely awakened by a call, "All out for Stenton," I do not know. I looked around me and saw row upon row of trees, shrubs and evergreens stretching away to the southwest as far as the eye could see. Leisurously crossing over from the station platform, I found myself strolling in the well-worn path that leads through the nursery out to the office.

Though the brisk autumn winds had stripped every leaf from the Weeping Mulberry, the signs of well-ordered activity were all about. Just ahead was as beautiful a block of evergreens as I have ever seen.

It was notable on the score of quantity, but even more notable on the score of quality. Thrift, vigor, hardiness and broad variety placed these evergreens well up among the best lots in the largest nurseries. Yet, as I later learned, the lot was small indeed compared to that in the Meehan Nursery at Dresher.

The reason for their sturdiness and symmetry was apparent, when the system of frequent transplanting and shearing was explained, though I must admit that I had not heard of such exacting care in all my previous experience. That any nursery would transplant Norway Spruce three times and shear them to make them bushy, was a revelation to me.

As I strayed along the main path, I noted the beautiful red berries of the rare Washington Thorn; later a specimen California Big Tree, which is so unusual in the East, further impressed me with the fact that the Meehan Nurseries must be still as much devoted to unusual trees and plants as during the lifetime of its founder. On their trial grounds I later noted such trees as the Broad-leaved Maple of Oregon, the Chinese Cork Tree, and the rare Franklin Tree, which is so difficult to raise that the original wild stock has been found but once—none of which I can recall having seen in any other nursery.

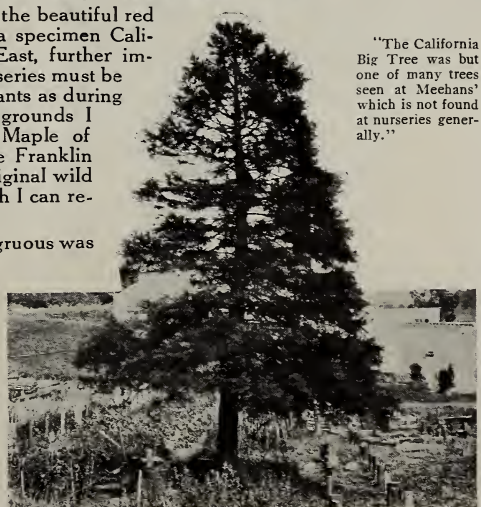
One thing I noted that struck me as incongruous was the use of overhead irrigation pipes in many of the nursery blocks. Surely, this was their purpose, yet I had never before seen them in an Eastern nursery. I made a mental note to ask why they were being used, and passed on.

#### FINE SPECIMENS, PLENTY OF ROOTS

November 18, 1912.

"I was very well pleased with my recent order from you. The plants were fine specimens and had such a lot of roots."

E. P. O'D.,  
Washington, D. C.





"Why such large greenhouses about a nursery which laid such stress on plants that grow outdoors?"

Directly in front, at a distance, was seen the sharp lines of a large block of beautifully sheared *Retinispora*; such fine, large, erect plants that one could not help but class them among the choicest specimens he had seen.



The most popular Hardy Chrysanthemums are medium large flowers as represented by Julia Lagravere, Golden Mille, Martha and Souer Melaine.

Off to the right stood a fine specimen of the unusual Weeping Dogwood, which was remarkably graceful even though almost leafless. This, I understand, has quite a history, being one of the first three trees of the variety which was originally introduced by the Meehan Nurseries. Beyond, a glistening expanse of glass met my eye. Why such large greenhouses about a nursery which laid such stress on plants that grow outdoors? I stepped into a veritable bower of hardy chrysanthemums; and it required but a glance to realize why the name "Thomas Meehan & Sons" so often heads the list of awards for this class at the fall flower shows. More beautiful large bronze blossoms of the May Suydam, or brilliant terra cotta blossoms of the Fremy, I had never seen.

Here were being propagated new varieties of hardy chrysanthemums, which will probably replace many old favorites as soon as flower lovers in general shall see them. Not less than 10,000 hardy chrysanthemum plants are raised here every winter just for garden use.

These are distinctively propagating houses. Evergreens and many rare plants here technically begin life, being started in various ways from cuttings, grafts, seeds, etc. Thousands and thousands of such plants are turned out annually and all for permanent outdoor planting.

In these large greenhouses potted plants are started early in winter from well-established cuttings.

#### HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS DID BETTER THAN EXPECTED

November 12, 1912.

"Enclosed is check for \$15.34 for the two bills. The little hardy chrysanthemums have done splendidly and are at this moment in full bloom and splendid color. I did not expect them to do as well as they have done.

"I trust to have more of these kinds next year."

W. S. R., Ridgfield, Conn.



"Not less than ten thousand Hardy Chrysanthemum plants are raised here every winter for garden use."

lished roots, and by spring roses, vines and other plants are in condition to give immediate results. Since the change to your home grounds is simply moving—not transplanting—such plants can be safely shipped from March to November.

It is characteristic of the Meehan idea that no determined effort has been made to sell to the public plants of the beautiful orchids found in one of these greenhouses—which had been collected years ago by Thomas Meehan himself. Rather than have the most unsophisticated buyer purchase plants under any misapprehension, because of their reputation on hardy plants, they have contented themselves with the returns of sales of flowers to wholesale florists alone. With this right policy and the knowledge necessary to put its policy into execution, the Meehan Nurseries avoids sending tender plants to any locality where there would be any question of their giving entire satisfaction.

Emerging from the greenhouses, one notes the potted plant department nearby, the fumigating house to protect against scale and other insect pests; and the large shipping houses. Instead of the usual shed arrangement, here was a well-ordered department under roof and equipped with so many large arc lamps that night could be turned into day.

"Why this lighting system?" was the natural query put to Mr. Edward Meehan, the brother of the founder, under whose supervision Meehan shipments for all parts of the world have been packed for practically a half century.

"Because experience has shown that the best interests of our customers demand night shifts in the shipping department several months in the year, in order that shipments shall be sent forward in good season for planting. In spring and early summer, and again for several months in early fall, a special evening force is provided to facilitate deliveries."

Here were potted plants ready to ship out at a season when it would have been impossible to dig them safely from the open ground; there were well-burlapped roots of magnolias with so liberal a ball of soil included that moving ceased to be a great risk. I was surprised to learn that even Japanese Maples were being sent out late in the summer months in pots for the adornment of



"Well-burlapped roots of magnolias with so liberal a ball of soil included that moving ceased to be a great risk."

#### DO NOT THINK I HAVE EVER SEEN BETTER STOCK

November 26, 1912.

"I wish to say that the trees that you sent me arrived all right. I do not think that I have ever seen nicer stock from any nursery than these three Japanese Maples that you sent me. If you think that the Yellow Maple that you advertise in your catalog is sufficiently hardy to stand the winters here in Chicago, please send to me at the same address as heretofore, Glencoe, Ill., one Yellow Maple, that I can use in a group with two of the red ones that you sent me.

A. Z., W. Adams St., Chicago, Ill.



"Around the office were plantings that demonstrated not only the high quality of Meehan evergreens, but also indicated their characteristics, and suggests how to secure best effects."

summer homes, where otherwise there would be little chance for successful planting out of season. On past the office building, I walked

the main drive to the entrance, and then turning about saw the nursery from the direction I had first seen it on my earlier visit.

I have seen some large plantings around the offices of nurseries, but ever since my former visit to the Meehan Nurseries the recollection of quality remained in my mind in connection with this foreground scene. As an aid to customers desiring suggestions on the most effective grouping of evergreens, nothing could be better than such plantings, based upon contrasting the characteristics of each plant.

Here were Blue Spruce that were full, symmetrical and truer to color than any I had ever seen except in an occasional specimen on some fine lawn. Here standard box plants, and pyramids were found at their best, trimmed so symmetrical that one felt as if he were looking at a finely kept formal garden, rather than a nursery. The dark green foliage of the Siberian Arborvitae furnished a pleasing contrast to the beautiful silvery-blue foliage of the Juniperus stricta.

*Continued in the February issue*

#### MALLOW BLOOMS CONTINUOUSLY FIRST SUMMER

October 22, 1912.

"I received a plant of your Red Mallow Marvel in the spring. It certainly has proved to be a beauty. It is about four feet high and has bloomed continuously this summer, and such beautiful blooms too. I knew it was budding, but it came out in flower before I expected, and such a beauty! They are a beautiful species."

Mrs. H. T. G., R. R. 12,  
Indianapolis, Ind.



"Even had I not seen the legend below, I should have known that this was the wonderful Mallow Marvel!"





## Making a Bulb Garden

By Grace Tabor. McBride, Nast & Co., N. Y.

The information contained in this little book is practically complete in regard to planting bulbs.

It explains clearly the proper method to plan a bulb garden, where to use bulbs to be most effective, and also the undesirable locations.

A list of bulbs is given, with descriptions and an explanation of how a succession of flowers may be had with bulbous plants from very early spring until autumn.

## A Year in My Garden

By Virginia E. Verplanck, Fishkill-on-Hudson, N. Y.

Postpaid \$1.07

The work in the garden, cultivation and care of the orchard, small fruits, vegetables and flowering plants are familiarly discussed, also

the preparation of the soil. A plan is mapped out for the work to be accomplished each month. The treatment, to prevent and eradicate insects and diseases to which many plants and trees are subject, is most valuable information, especially to the amateur gardener.

## A Beautiful Orchid AS A HOUSE PLANT

THE *Cypripedium insigne* is a highly attractive orchid, bearing dainty, graceful flowers of which the illustration appearing above hardly does justice. The flower is, in color, a pretty blending of yellow, green, reddish-brown and white. When cut, the blossoms will keep for at least two weeks in water. Try a few. You can have no trouble in growing them as they do well in a room with the temperature at 40° or 50°. Our plants are in beautiful condition.

Plants in 5-inch pans, 2 to 3 flowers each, \$2.00 each. Plants in 6-inch pans, 3 to 4 flowers each, bushy, \$2.50 each. Plants in 8-inch pots, 5 to 7 flowers each, extra bushy, \$4.00 each.

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila., Pa.

## SCARLET-BERRIED ENGLISH HOLLIES

EVERY season we get a fine lot of English Hollies (*Ilex Aquifolium*) from Europe, every plant loaded down with hundreds of the brightest scarlet berries. Showy is hardly an adequate word to describe them.

The glossy, green foliage adds to their attractiveness, especially when seen under artificial light.



What excellent plants to create distinct decorative effects!

They are now ready. Each plant is in a neat, plain pail, and full of berries.

3 to 4 feet  
selected specimens  
\$5.00 each

4 to 5 feet  
beautiful plants  
\$7.50 each

5 to 6 feet  
specimens  
\$10.00 each

Thomas Meehan & Sons  
Germantown, Phila., Pa.

Thomas Meehan & Sons  
Germantown, Phila., Pa.



Scene in old Chester, England. The background shows part of the old city wall, so famed and interesting. The leafless English Elm shows the rugged lines of this attractive tree.

# Rare, Historic English Elms

Now offered for the first time to the American public

Added to the many attractions of the English Elm as a beautiful, compact tree, is the human interest of such historic associations as the following:

Quantity

- 8 Tower of London
- 13 Junior School—Cheltenham College
- 11 Lichfield—Home of Samuel Johnson
- 8 Blantyre, Scotland—Home of David Livingstone
- 6 Churchyard at Keswick—where Southey is buried
- 11 Balmoral Castle
- 8 Loch Lomond
- 6 Melrose Abbey
- 7 Holyrood Palace—Edinburgh
- 4 Edinburgh Castle
- 2 Field of Sanshieburn—Stirling
- 1 Stirling Castle—Douglas Gardens
- 10 Battlefield—Stirling Bridge
- 6 Ayr—Home of Burns
- 1 Hawarden—Estate of Gladstone
- 8 Westminster Palace Gardens—Birthplace of Queen Victoria
- 3 Cambridge University—Grounds of St. John's College
- 3 Twickenham—Home of Pope
- 4 Oxford—Addison's Walk at Magdalene College

Quantity

- 4 Oxford—near Monument of Three Martyrs
- 5 Eton College—Poet's Walk
- 6 Bedford—Birthplace of John Bunyan
- 3 Stratford—Churchyard of Church where Shakespeare is buried
- 3 Elston Great Tree—Home of Bunyan
- 4 Eton College—Playground
- 2 Waverly Abbey—near Haslemere
- 3 Rugby School—near "The Island"
- 3 Haslemere Old Ruins
- 11 Cambridge University—Trinity College
- 2 Henley-on-Thames
- 3 Cambridge University—Grounds of Kings College
- 10 Ely Cathedral
- 9 Sandringham—Castle of Prince of Wales
- 3 Windsor Castle—Long Walk
- 6 Harrow School
- 6 Landport—Early Home of Charles Dickens
- 5 Chester—near Old Roman Water Gate

None of these trees are seedlings, but *actual living pieces cut from the famous old trees and grafted on to roots of the common English Elm.*

The first announcement of our offer regarding these trees brought us an astonishing number of orders. One man wanted one of each kind; another wanted all of our stock from Loch Lomond; while a third requested a tree from his father's home town and his college grounds.

Notice that the supply is limited. We are therefore compelled to limit orders to one of a kind to any one person, and orders can only be accepted subject to supply, and will be filled in the rotation received.

In ordering, be sure to indicate your second choice in case the first cannot be filled.

No reduction in price, or concession regardless of number bought. *Ten Dollars each, half cash with order, f. o. b. Germantown.* Trees 8 to 10 feet high.

**THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.**